MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Development of Moovattupuzha Tirvankulam section in Cochin Madurai Highway

270. SHRI K. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any funds have been allotted for development of Moovattupuzha Tirvankulam section in Cochin-Madurai Highway;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what work has been undertaken and completed so far;

(d) what is the volume of work pending and by when it is expected to be completed; and

(e) what is the amount of money released and spent so far out of allotted funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Audit has been authorised to admit expenditure of Rs. 68.31 lacs against the loan assistance of Rs. 100 lacs;

(c) State Government has reported that the work taken up included reconstruction of weak and narrow culverts and widening & strengthening of the existing pavement. 80% of the cross-drainage works have been completed so far. Collection of metal for W.B.M. work and earth work for widening the road has been completed;

(d) 20% of the cross-drainage, metalling and surfacing etc. still remains to be executed. It is expected to be completed soon by the State Government subject to availability of funds; and

(e) The funds are released in lumpsum to the State as a whole and not workwise, taking into consideration the requirement projected by the State Government and also the availability of funds under this scheme. However, during the year 1987-88 an amount of Rs. 20 lacs has been released to Kerala Government under E&I Scheme. The Kerala Government has intimated to have incurred an expenditure of Rs. 31,37,823/- upto March, 1988 on this work.

Psychic healing in the country

271. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what ailments in particular can be cured by psychic healing and the names of the hospitals where this facility is available;

(b) whether Government propose to set up an institute for research work in the field of psychic healing; and

(c) if so, the name of the institution and by when it is likely to be started and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) According to the available information the following type of ailments can be cured by psychic healing:-

(i) Schizophrenia

(ii) Manic Depressive Psychosis

(iii) Organic Psychoses

At present the following two institutions are working under the control of the Central Government viz.

1. National Institue of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences Bangalore.

2. Central Institute of Psychiatry, Ranchi.

The Government has at present no proposal to set up new Institutions.

Steps to promote/popularise naturopathy in the country

272. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi, was of the opinion that naturopathy was the only system of medicine that was best suited for our countrymen;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government so far to promote naturopathy; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to popularise naturopathy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) The Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, had strong faith in Naturopathy and advocated the practice of this system in the country.

(b) and (c) With a view to initiate, aid, develop and coordinate scientific research in different aspects, fundamental and applied of Yoga & Naturopathy and to promote and assist institutions of research for the study of diseases, their prevention causation and remedy, the Government have established Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy.

It has also been decided to set up a National Institute of Naturopathy at Pune. A provision of Rs. 1.00 crore has been made for this Institute during the 7th Five Year Plan.

Tibetan Medical Institute at Dharamsala

273. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tibetan Medical Institute is functioning at Dharamsala and if so, since when and the reasons therefor;

(b) the extent to which the institute has been able to cure the patients of their ailments so far; and

(c) what steps the Government propose to take to develop the Tibetan method of healing treatment in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) Tibetan Medical Institute at Dharamsala is not financed by the Government and as such the Government have no information about the functioning of the institution.

(c) Government have no proposal under consideration for development of Tibetan System of Medicine presently.

Acupuncture treatment in the Country

274. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the ailments which can be cured by acupuncture and the places where this facility is available in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that instead of pins, laser beams are now being used in fields of acupuncture in certain hospitals; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the places of treatment?